

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00959 031131Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----084769 031138Z /20

Z R 031115Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 0673
USMISSION USUN NY FLASH
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 0959

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, UNSC, SOV, LE, IS, XF
SUBJECT: SOVIETS IN UNFIL?

1. UN SOURCE INFORMED US APRIL 3 THAT SOVIET UN AMBASSADOR HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO WALDHEIM RECENTLY OVER POSSIBLE UNIFIL PRESSURE ON PLO IN TYRE AREA. SOVIETS, ACTING ON PLO REQUEST, FEARED THAT UNIFIL MIGHT TRY TO FORCE PALESTINIANS OUT OF POSITIONS AROUND TYRE AND THUS LEAD TO DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH PLO. SOVIET AMBASSADOR HOPED UNIFIL WOULD NOT APPEAR TO BE DOING IDF'S BIDDING. WALDHEIM SUBSEQUENTLY IN REACTING TO SOVIET APPROACH HAS BEEN THINKING OF WAYS TO DRAW SOVIETS INTO UNIFIL. HE APPARENTLY HAS ASKED SIILASVUO ABOUT USING SOVIET UNMO'S NOW IN DAMASCUS FOR DUTY WITH UNIFIL. SIILASVUO ON APRIL 2 RESPONDED BY INDICATING THAT 13 SOVIET UNMO'S IN DAMASCUS COULD BE USED IN TYRE AREA FOR LIAISON WITH PLO.

2. COMMENT: FOR OUR GUIDANCE, WOULD APPRECIATE
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DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF SOVIETS DIRECTLY IN UNIFIL. SIILASVUO MENTIONED THIS POSSIBILITY TO ME APRIL 3. SOURCE INDICATES THAT SIILASVUO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF SOVIETS IN UNIFIL WHEN HE LAST SAW KHOURY AND GOT NO NEGATIVE REACTION FROM HIM. WE ASSUME ISRAELIS WOULD NOT BE HAPPY WITH SUCH A DEVELOPMENT.

NEWLIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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